

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-22 are pending herein. Claim 4 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error. Claims 1-22 have been subjected to restriction as pertaining to distinct inventions. The claims have been restricted to one of the following groups:

I. Claims 1-8, and 13, drawn to a nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO:9, encoding SEQ ID NO:10, a vector, a host cell, and a method of producing a protein, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.

II. Claims 9-10, drawn to a protein of SEQ ID NO:10, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

III. Claims 11-12, drawn to an antibody which binds to SEQ ID NO:10, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.

IV. Claims 14-19, drawn to a method of compound identification, classified in class 435, subclass 7.2.

V. Claims 20-22, drawn to a compound which binds SEQ ID NO:10, as it reads on, for example, a peptide, classified in class 530, subclass 300.

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PATENT

Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-8 and 13 for further prosecution in this application.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims directed to the non-elected inventions,
deemed herein as distinct, in one or more continuing or divisional applications.

Respectfully submitted,



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